are farmers. Large holdings, owned by absentee landlords and worked according to the share-tenancy system, predominate, however, in the Bekaa valley, in the Akkar plain and in the province of South Lebanon.

A diversity of crops is grown in different parts of the country. The subtropical climate of the coastal plain permits the cultivation of citrus fruits and bananas, while olives, grapes, apricots and other fruits flourish on the terraced mountain slopes. Cereals and legumes are the chief crops of the Bekaa, but cotton, tobacco and numerous types of vegetables are also produced. Large numbers of goats, as well as sheep, cattle and other livestock, are raised, primarily as food or draft animals. Sericulture is carried on in many mountain villages, but the competition of artificial silks has contributed to its decline within recent years. The government encourages the expansion of agriculture through the promotion of co-operative credit and marketing facilities. There are no experimental farms or research stations, but instruction in modern methods of farming is provided by the agricultural division of the government's vocational school in Beirut and by the American University.

The mineral resources of the region are negligible. Small deposits of lignite, located in the hills above Beirut and Tripoli, are worked intermittently. Salt is also extracted in evaporating beds along the coast north of Beirut. The development of modern industry received some impetus during the war years (1941-45), but is handicapped by the scarcity of raw materials and the limitations of the internal market. Numerous small plants exist for the processing of consumer goods, including the manufacture of textiles, cement, soaps, distilled liquors, leather goods, cigarettes, olive oil and various foodstuffs. The Iraq Petroleum Company has recently established a refinery at Tripoli, the terminus of its pipeline from the oil fields in the Kirkuk region. The chief exports are olives and olive oil, textiles, silk, fruits and petroleum products.

[illegible]

[illegible] and to the opening of new markets overseas. Because of the large amount of unemployment, substantial wages were reduced, bringing down costs. Between 1947 and 1954, investment in plant and equipment in the principal [illegible] industries doubled, while employment rose by 14 per cent. [illegible] were [illegible] and rose further to 1955.

[illegible] Each new industry gave rise [illegible] to industries. Mining expanded to [illegible] a very active part in the economy. Building shows a doubled and tripled [illegible] supplies, such as [illegible] have [illegible] of [illegible] of this are [illegible] equipment, a total of [illegible] tons in that year. Output in 1954 was expected to reach [illegible] tons. The [illegible] of tar was at [illegible] per ton. [illegible]

[illegible] Imports of [illegible] have [illegible]. The [illegible] increased [illegible] of the war of 1954; the [illegible] increased from [illegible] tons in 1954 to [illegible] in 1955, and, after suspension of capacity in 1954, to [illegible] tons in 1955, [illegible] in 1956 [illegible] and [illegible] in the first half of 1954. [illegible] of major [illegible] have the [illegible] of [illegible] tons in 1954 and [illegible] in 1956. [illegible] The [illegible] of the [illegible] output of equipment to [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] 1955. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] through the [illegible]

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[illegible] The [illegible] of [illegible] to the main [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] have increased from [illegible] in 1947 to 1954 to [illegible] in 1947 and [illegible] in 1954, [illegible] to [illegible] in 1955. [illegible] increased from [illegible] to [illegible] in 1954 to [illegible] in 1955, to [illegible] in 1956, to [illegible] in 1957 and to [illegible] in 1958, the [illegible] of employees in [illegible] industries rose from [illegible] in 1954 to [illegible] in 1955, [illegible] in 1956 and [illegible] in 1957. The [illegible] increased in five [illegible] industries increased from [illegible] to [illegible] in 1954 to [illegible] in 1955, in [illegible]